

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

- 1-23. (Cancelled)
- 24. (Currently amended): An isolated polynucleotide comprising:
  - a) ~~nucleotides 1202 through 1543 of Figure 2;~~
  - b) nucleotide 1252 through 1543 of Figure 2; or
  - c) ~~nucleotides encoding amino acids 283 through 396 of Figure 2; or~~
  - [[d]] b) nucleotides encoding amino acids 299 through 396 of Figure 2.
- 25. (Cancelled)
- 26. (Previously presented): An isolated polynucleotide comprising nucleotides 1252 through 1543 of Figure 2.
- 27-29. (Cancelled)
- 30. (Previously presented): An isolated polynucleotide comprising nucleotides encoding amino acids 299 through 396 of Figure 2.
- 31-32. (Cancelled)
- 33. (Previously presented): An isolated polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide that hybridizes to a polynucleotide complementary to a polynucleotide comprising nucleotides 1252 to 1543 of Figure 2 under the following conditions: incubation at 65°C in standard hybridization buffer (6X SSC, 5X Denhardt's solution, 0.01 M EDTA, 0.5% SDS) and washing at 65°C in 0.2X SSC, 0.1% SDS, wherein said isolated polynucleotide encodes a protein characterized by the ability to induce the formation of cartilage and/or bone tissue.
- 34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously presented): A vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 24 in operative association with an expression control sequence therefore.

36. (Previously presented): A vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 33 in operative association with an expression control sequence therefore.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously presented): A host cell transformed with a vector of claim 35.

39. (Previously presented): A host cell transformed with a vector of claim 36.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously presented): An isolated polynucleotide comprising ATCC deposit 40345.

42. (Previously presented): A method for producing a bone morphogenetic protein, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) culturing a host cell transformed with a polynucleotide of claim 33, and
- b) recovering said bone morphogenetic protein.

43-49. (Cancelled)